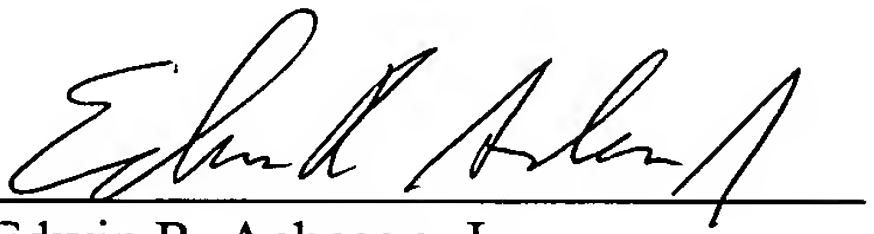


REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are merely formal. Said amendments are fully supported by Figure 6 of the previously filed informal drawings. Applicant respectfully requests that this Preliminary Amendment be entered prior to the examination on the merits of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, The Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, this 23rd day of December, 2003.

